Witness Bio

Joan Ruff

Joan Ruff, J.D. is chair of the AARP Board and has worked as an executive, human resources consultant and attorney. After more than 10 years as a tax attorney, she joined William M. Mercer Inc., where Ms. Ruff consulted on employee benefits and compensation. She then held executive management positions at Zurich Financial Services and H&R Block.

As chair of the AARP Board and former chair of AARP's Audit and Finance Committee, Ms. Ruff's extensive expertise has made her a frequent guest speaker on aging and human resources issues. She has particularly spoken on topics relating to how employers can benefit from an enlightened longevity strategy and how the increase in more active older adults makes them an important consumer force. She brought her insights to a recent Milken Global Institute panel that focused on how to capitalize on the longevity shift.

Ms. Ruff's leadership on numerous nonprofit boards and committees includes service as Secretary/Treasurer of the Mid-Continent Council of Girl Scouts and chair of the Mid-Continent Girl Scouts' Human Resources and Capital Campaign committees. She has also contributed her expertise to Habitat for Humanity and the Kansas City Red Cross. She resides in Mission Woods, Kansas, where she serves on the Mission Woods City Council.